

EXHIBIT

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DATE

4/15/13

SB

96

Chairman Duane Ankney

House Appropriations Committee

April 15, 2013

RE: SB 96 "An Act Reducing the Tax Rate for a Portion of the Taxable Market Value of Class Eight Business Equipment Owned by a Taxpayer"

Good afternoon Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. For the record my name is Julia Altemus, I come before you in support of SB 96 on behalf of the Montana Wood Products Association.

Mill manufacturing owners require large and expensive pieces of equipment in the everyday operations of their mills. Mills are capital intensive, which is why when a mill closes, it very unlikely that it will reopen in the future.

In general, too many businesses are being taxed on the capital investments they make to grow their businesses before those investments even have a chance to pay off.

We would like to thank the sponsor and urge a green light on this bill.